

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 AID-05 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5243

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ILO PORG EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN VIEWS ON ILO EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR
CONFERENCES

REF: STATE 168519

1. EGYPTIAN ILO DELEGATE AHMAD FAHIM, DIRGEN OF FOREIGN
LABOR RELATIONS AT MANPOWER MINISTRY, TOLD LRO JULY 14
THAT WEC GENERALLY CONSIDERED FAILURE BY EGYPTIANS.
FAHIM CITED INABILITY OF CONFERENCE TO ARRIVE AT SPECIFIC
RECOMMENDATIONS AND GENERAL CONFUSION OVER PROCEDURES AS
BASIS EGYPTIAN VIEW.

2. WITH REGARD GENERAL CONFERENCE JUNE 2-24, HOWEVER,
FAHIM SAID EGYPTIANS PLEASED BY GREATLY INCREASED
FLEXIBILITY AND NEW CORDIALITY WHICH MARKED DEALINGS
BETWEEN INDUSTRIALIZED STATES AND GROUP OF 77. HE
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OPTIMISTIC THAT ILC MARKS POSSIBLE TURNING POINT TOWARDS

GREATER SUBSTANTIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FUTURE.

3. FAHIM TOOK PERSONAL CREDIT FOR REVERSAL GOVERNING BODY DECISION ON ADMISSION OF PLO. HIS STORY IS THAT HE ARRIVED IN GENEVA TO FIND ARABS IN SHOCK OVER ORIGINAL DECISION TO EXCLUDE PLO AND LOOKING TO HIM FOR SOME SORT OF SOLUTION. FAHIM SAYS HIS OPPORTUNITY CAME FOLLOWING ADDRESS BY ILO LEGAL ADVISOR WOLF BEFORE AFRICAN GROUP. FAHIM ROSE TO REPLY AND SPOKE HOUR AND HALF, RECEIVING TUMULTUOUS APPLAUSE AT END OF HIS EXPOSE ON FAULTY LOGIC OF GOVERNING BODY'S DECISION. ACCORDING TO FAHIM, EVEN WOLF EMBRACED HIM IN ADMIRATION AND CARRIED THRUST OF HIS COMMENTS TO GOVERNING BODY, WHICH SUBSEQUENTLY REVERSED ITSELF IN FAVOR PLO ADMISSION.

4. COMMENT: WE STILL BELIEVE EGYPTIANS SEE NECESSITY OF DOWNPLAYING POLITICAL ISSUES TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, BUT ISSUES LIKE PLO REPRESENTATION OBVIOUSLY IN SPECIAL CATEGORY. EILTS

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